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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

### **MAURY ISLAND NATURAL AREA RECREATION RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **What rules dictate public use of Maury Island Natural Area?**

Rules for use of the site are codified In King County Code (Title 7); they apply to all lands managed by King County Parks.

The site's trails are ***open to all non-motorized uses*** such as:

- hikers
- mountain bikers
- trail runners
- equestrians and
- leashed pets.

Park rules ***prohibit:***

- **Motorized vehicle use on trails** (*except for wheelchairs powered by electric motors and maintenance, police and emergency vehicles*).
- **Hunting** (*unless the department has authorized it as a special recreational activity*)

See the following for the full list of Park Rules:

[http://your.kingcounty.gov/mkcc/clerk/code/10 Title 7.pdf](http://your.kingcounty.gov/mkcc/clerk/code/10_Title_7.pdf)

#### **Are there other restrictions on recreation use on lands within the Natural Area?**

Yes, a primary funding source for acquisition of the site was the King County Conservation Futures Tax (CFT). By state law, Conservation Futures funds can only be used to purchase land or conservation easements to ensure protection, conservation and

restoration of a variety of open space values including wildlife habitat, salmon habitat and aquatic resources, scenic resources, low-impact passive recreation (including trails), park system additions, and cultural resources. Because the goal for acquiring the land was to manage it as an ecological conservation site with limited recreation development, CFT funds were considered an appropriate funding source for the purchase of the site.

Since only passive recreation is allowed on lands acquired with CFT funds; motorized use is not allowed within the site except for maintenance purposes). No more than 15 percent of the site's total surface area may be developed or maintained with non-vegetative impervious surfaces-- trail surfaces are exempt.

In addition, because the shoreline at the Natural Area is designated as a "*Natural Environment*" under King County's Shoreline Master Program (KCC 21A.25), there are strict regulations on what types of development can occur within the portion of the parcel within 200 feet of the ordinary high water mark of Puget Sound. Only passive, low-impact recreational development that places minimal stress on the site's resources and that does not require facilities is allowed. Therefore, no new pier, dock, launching facilities, camping structures or parking facilities are permitted there. Trails are allowed if they are used only for passive recreation.

**What recommendations are being proposed to help facilitate use of the site?**  
(See recreation map for more specific location information).

**Facilities being proposed in the draft management plan include:**

- Maintain the approximately 6.5 mile existing long soft surface trail systems with some minor widening of a segment connecting to Dockton Forest
- Two gravel surfaced parking areas :
  - A smaller one (around 5 -7 vehicle capacity) near the cell tower area
  - A larger one (around 15 vehicle capacity) served by the gated maintenance access road
  - Both parking areas would be restricted to longer vehicles (under 22 feet)
- Additional parking to serve Maury Island Natural Area is, and would continue to be, available in the two parking areas near Dockton Park---one across from the Park on Dockton Road and the other located off of 94<sup>th</sup> Ave SW; these lots can accommodate trailers and other longer vehicles and are accessible by trails through Dockton Park and Forest to the Maury Island Natural Area.

- Two small picnic areas with no developed facilities
- One small picnic shelter or picnic area, near the proposed larger parking area
- Sanicans or vault toilet (self-contained, primitive), near the larger parking area
- Natural Shoreline/Beach Access
- Potential Water Trails System
- Enhanced/maintained viewpoints
- Interpretive Signage—(natural and -historical/archeological resource themes)
- Rule Signage

### **Why is the name “Maury Island Natural Area” selected for this site?**

The “Natural Area” portion of the name came from the King County Park’s classification system that directs all passive recreation/ecological conservation sites to be given this name. The name “Maury Island” was chosen to retain geographic nexus and to accommodate combining this site and the Maury Island Marine Park into one “park” site once acquisitions have been completed that accomplishes that connectivity.

The plan also recommends seeking community input on “sub names” for specific areas, viewpoints and trails within the site. This allows for existing common names to be formalized, and provides for an opportunity to apply names of historical or local interest. Lastly, creating such names serves to identify trails that transect other park sites in the vicinity, providing direction and continuity to the trail system.

### **What if I have additional questions about the soil cleanup at Maury Island Open Space Site or want to be added to a list for future updates and meeting notifications?**

For specific questions about the proposals for recreation improvements for Maury Natural Area please contact Connie Blumen, King County Parks Natural Resource Lands Manager: [connie.blumen@kingcounty.gov](mailto:connie.blumen@kingcounty.gov), 206.263.6371, 201 S. Jackson St. # 700, Seattle, WA 98104-3855.